AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of this application as follows:

Claims 1-25. (Cancelled).

26. (Previously presented) A secure document comprising:

a conductive substrate having a surface and having a message disposed on said surface; and

an electrophoretic display medium comprising a plurality of electrophoretic particles, said display medium having a first display state and a second display state and being disposed adjacent said conductive substrate;

wherein said first display state changes to reveal said message as a result of migratory movement of said electrophoretic particles in response to a first electrical signal communicated to said conductive substrate, and said second display state changes to obscure said message in response to a second electrical signal communicated to said conductive substrate.

27. (Previously presented) The secure document of claim 26 wherein said message comprises a text.

28. (Original) The secure document of claim 26 wherein said message comprises an image.

29. (Original) The secure document of claim 26 wherein said electrophoretic display medium comprises at least one microencapsulated electrophoretic particle.

30. (Previously presented) A secure document comprising:

a substrate having a surface and having a message disposed on said surface;

an electrophoretic display medium comprising a plurality of electrophoretic particles, said display medium having a first display state and a second display state and being disposed adjacent said substrate; and

a first electrode disposed adjacent said electrophoretic display medium;

wherein said first display state changes to reveal said message as a result of migratory movement by said electrophoretic particles in response to a first electrical signal communicated to said first electrode, and said second display state changes to obscure said message in response to a second electrical signal communicated to said first electrode.

31. (Previously presented) The secure document of claim 30 wherein said message comprises a text.

32. (Original) The secure document of claim 30 wherein said message comprises an image.

33. (Previously presented) The secure document of claim 30 wherein said message is composed by a conductive ink.

34. (Original) The secure document of claim 33 wherein at least one of said first electrical signal and said second electrical signal comprises an electrical field applied between said first electrode and said conductive ink.

35. (Original) The secure document of claim 30 further comprising a second electrode disposed adjacent said substrate and adjacent said electrophoretic display medium.

36. (Original) The secure document of claim 35 wherein at least one of said first electrical signal and said second electrical signal comprises an electrical field applied between said first electrode and said second electrode.

37. (Original) The secure document of claim 30 further comprising a second electrode adapted to interact with said electrophoretic display medium.

38. (Original) The secure document of claim 37 wherein said second electrode is an electrostatic head.

39. (Original) The secure document of claim 37 wherein said second electrode is a charged stylus.

40. (Original) The secure document of claim 37 wherein said second electrode is in communication with a validation machine.

41. (Original) The secure document of claim 30 further comprising a timer in communication with said electrophoretic display medium.

42. (Original) The secure document of claim 30 wherein said electrophoretic display medium comprises at least one microencapsulated electrophoretic particle.

Claims 43-44. (Cancelled).

45. (Previously presented) A method for securing a document comprising the steps of:

providing a secure document comprising a substrate having a surface;

disposing a message on said surface, said message comprising a conductive ink;

disposing an electrophoretic display medium having a display state adjacent said surface, said display medium comprising a plurality of electrophoretic particles;

providing at least one electrode adapted to interact with said secure document; and

communicating a first electrical signal between said conductive ink and said first electrode to effect migratory movement by said electrophoretic particles to change said display state to shield said message.

46. (Previously presented) A method for securing a document comprising the steps of:

providing a substrate having a surface and a message disposed on said surface;

disposing a shield on said surface, said shield comprising a first clear electrode, an electrophoretic display medium having a display state and disposed on the first electrode, and a second electrode disposed adjacent the display medium, said display medium comprising a plurality of electrophoretic particles; and

communicating a first electrical signal between said first clear electrode and said second electrode to shield said message through migratory movement of said electrophoretic particles.